

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CAR:TJCHEAVNER/BTK

APPROVED BY ARA:HARYAN

ARA:WHLUERS

S/S -O:AOTTO

S:RAHERNE

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P 040052Z MAY 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 107511 TOSEC 110646

EXDIS - TO THE SECRETARY FROM ARA - RYAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GY

SUBJECT: ACTION MEMORANDUM: YOUR CONTACTS WITH THE
GUYANESE (S/S 7609180)

1. PROBLEM. WHETHER AND WHEN YOU SHOULD HAVE FURTHER
PERSONAL CONTACT WITH THE GUYANESE LEADERSHIP. AS NOTED
IN OUR LATEST CABLE ON YOUR ITINERARY (STATE 104137
TOSEC 11407), WE THINK PERSONAL DIPLOMACY IMPORTANT IN THE
CASE OF OUR LEFT LEANING GUYANESE FRIENDS. BUT WE DO NOT
WANT TO OVERDO IT. AS WE SEE THEM, THE ALTERNATIVES ARE
A LUNCHEON STOP IN GEORGETOWN DURING YOUR LA TRIP, A
BILATERAL MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER WILLS IN NAIROBI,
OR A MEETING HERE WITH WILLS IN THE SECOND WEEK OF MAY.

2. DISCUSSION. CONTACTS WITH THE GUYANESE LEADERSHIP
WOULD BE A LOGICAL FOLLOW UP TO YOUR FEBRUARY MEETING WITH
WILLS. YOU COULD USE A MEETING TO EXPLORE WITH BURNHAM OR
WILLS THE FUTURE RAMIFICATIONS OF THEIR CUBAN TIES AND
GUYANESE FEARS THAT WE ARE ENGAGED IN A "DESTABILIZATION"

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CAMPAIGN AGAINST THEM. IN COMMON WITH A NUMBER OF OTHERS

IN THE BLACK CARIBBEAN, THE GUYANESE LEADERSHIP IS EMOTIONAL ABOUT RHODESIA AND APARTHEID. YOUR LUSAKA SPEECH SHOULD HAVE HELPED A GREAT DEAL, AND A PERSONAL DISCUSSION WITH BURNHAM AND/OR WILLS WOULD REINFORCE THE FAVORABLE IMPACT.

3. WILLS HAS ASSURED US THAT THE GUYANESE TROOPS TRAINING IN CUBA WILL NOT BE SENT TO AFRICA. HE HAS ALSO GIVEN ASSURANCES THAT CUBA WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO USE GUYANESE TERRITORY FOR AGGRESSIVE ACTS AGAINST OTHER COUNTRIES IN THIS HEMISPHERE. BUT BURNHAM'S FEAR OF BRAZILIAN AND/OR VENEZUELAN AGGRESSION MAY BE IMPELLING HIM EVEN FURTHER INTO THE CUBAN ORBIT. OUR MOST RECENT INTELLIGENCE REPORTS SUGGEST THAT -- DESPITE EARLIER PUBLIC DENIALS -- THERE ARE NOW CUBAN MILITARY ADVISERS AT SOME GUYANESE DEFENSE OUTPOSTS.

4. CUBAN USE OF GUYANESE REFUELING FACILITIES FOR FURTHER AFRICAN ADVENTURES ALSO REMAINS AN OPEN QUESTION. BURNHAM AND WILLS ARE ON RECORD SEVERAL TIMES TO THE EFFECT THAT THE FACILITIES ARE AVAILABLE TO CUBA FOR ACTION AGAINST RHODESIA AND/OR SOUTH AFRICA. BUT WILLS' MOST RECENT COMMENT ON THIS SUBJECT SUGGESTS THE GUYANESE MAY HAVE HAD SOME SECOND THOUGHTS. YOU MAY BE ABLE TO STRENGTHEN THEIR CAUTION.

5. WE THINK IT WOULD BE BEST TO STOP IN GUYANA, AS PREVIOUSLY RECOMMENDED, AND IF YOU DO SO, NO BILATERALS WITH WILLS ARE IN ORDER EITHER IN NAIROBI OR IN WASHINGTON. IF YOU DO NOT CHOOSE TO STOP IN GUYANA, THE NEXT BEST ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE TO SEE WILLS HERE. (WILLS HAS TOLD OUR AMBASSADOR IN GEORGETOWN THAT HE PREFERS A MEETING AWAY FROM THE THIRD WORLD ENVIRONMENT OF UNCTAD, PLANS TO LEAVE NAIROBI ON MAY 7, AND CAN ADJUST HIS SCHEDULE TO MEET WITH YOU IN WASHINGTON ANYTIME AFTER THAT DATE.)

6. RECOMMENDATION:

THAT YOU AGREE TO STOP FOR LUNCH IN GEORGETOWN EN ROUTE HOME FROM OASGA.

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APPROVE:

DISAPPROVE:

ALTERNATIVELY, THAT YOU AGREE TO SEE WILLS HERE DURING THE WEEK OF MAY 9.

APPROVE:

DISAPPROVE:

TIME:

ALTERNATIVELY, THAT YOU SEE WILLS IN NAIROBI.

APPROVE:

DISAPPROVE:

7. BILL ROGERS APPROVED THIS IN SUBSTANCE BEFORE HIS
DEPARTURE FOR NAIROBI.

8. DRAFTED BY: ARA/CAR-TJCHEAVNER; AUTHORIZED BY: ARA-
HARYAN; CLEARED BY: ARA-WHLUERS, S-RAHERNE. SISCO

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NNN

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